

**From:** triscgd@wt6.usdoj.gov@inetgw  
**To:** Microsoft ATR  
**Date:** 1/2/02 1:59am  
**Subject:** Microsoft Settlement

I wish to speak out (albeit from Australia) against the settlement proposed in the Microsoft anti-trust case.

As has been pointed out by Robert X. Cringely ( <http://www.pbs.org/cringely/pulpit/pulpit20011206.html> ), the details of the proposal will potentially put Microsoft in a position to target open-source software, which is in fact the only true competition which Microsoft faces today. It will thus end up increasing, rather than diminishing (as is the case's intent) Microsoft's market power.

In addition, organisations such as our own require the flexibility to be able to choose open-source software, which we know is secure and not subject to "back-door" snooping by Redmond, or anyone else whom they are "in bed with". A perceived "cosy deal" between the US Govt and Microsoft will drive foreign governments and organisations away from US software and towards software they can trust.

In short the deal is not in the best interests of Microsoft, the US, or foreign software users. It will not address the problems raised in the anti-trust case.

Regards,  
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